Chicago Tribune.

VOLUME XVII. CHICAGO, SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1864. NUMBER 180.

William Makepeace Thackeray, an English novelist, was born in Calcutta in 1811. Descended from an old family of Yorkshire that has given several rectors and scholars to the church of England, his grandfather was rector of Hadley in Middlesex, and his father was engaged in the civil service of the East India company. He was sent to England in his 7th year, had a view of Napoleon at St. Helena on his way, and was placed at the Charterhouse school in London. Join the Charterhouse he went to the university of Cambridge, but did not take his degree; inherited a fortune of $250,000 on coming of age; chose art for his profession; and travelled and studied for several years in France, Italy, and Germany. In 1830-'31 he lived at Weimar, saw Goethe, purchased Schiller's sword, and delighted in making caricatures for children, some of which he found still preserved on revisiting the place in 1853. Reminiscences of his early art studies are interwoven into his fictions, many of which are illustrated by his own pencil; but he abandoned the project of becoming a professional artist soon after his return to England. His fortune was greatly reduced by losses and unsuccessful speculations, and before his 30th year he had set himself resolutely to literature as his vocation. His progress to general recognition was slow, though from the first he gave signs of his peculiar powers. He is understood to have written for the "Times" while it was edited by Barnes, and was certainly connected with other London journals. He contributed to "Fraser's Magazine," under the pseudonyms of Michael Angelo Titmarsh, and George Fitz-Boodle, Esq., a variety of tales, criticisms, descriptive sketches, and verses, which proved his knowledge of the world, delicate irony, and master of a playful yet vigorous style. In this periodical appeared "The Great Hoggarty Diamond" in 1841, a thoroughly genial satire, with a tone at once of ridicule and of pathos. His earliest separate publications, also under the pseudonyms of "Titmarsh, illustrated by sketches and sketches," were "The Paris Sketch Book" (2 vols., 1840); "The Second Funeral of Napoleon;" and "The Chronicle of the Drum" (1841), the latter being one of his finest satirical pieces; and "The Irish Sketch Book" (2 vols., 1843). None of these attained popularity, though the last has some of the happiest touches both of his pen and pencil. Meantime "Barry Lyndon," one of the best of his short tales, narrating the adventures of an Irish gambler and fortune hunter, was contributed by Fitz-Boodle to "Fraser." The establishment of "Punch" in 1841 opened to him a new field, and his papers in this periodical specially acquired peculiar distinction. His first series, under the signature of "The Fat Contributor," was followed by "Jeames's Diary," in which he looks at society from the footman's point of view, and "The Snob Papers," which gave to him an independent reputation as a social satirist, while they added to the success and dignity of "Punch." Many of his contributions were in verse, and showed his dexterous command of rhyme and of ludicrous orthography.

Among the works that will longest preserve his fame as a humorous and satirical writer are Pendennis, Vanity Fair, The Newcomes, The Virginians, and The Adventures of Philip; all widely known to American readers, as having been published in serials and in large type on full sheets. The last-named is the happiest illustrations of Thackeray's works are by himself. He visited the United States a few years since and won added literary reputation as a lecturer.

The characters of Thackeray are generally described, not by their great qualities or leading habits, but by small peculiarities, affectations, or weaknesses. He shows no more of his personages than might be gathered from intercourse in society, paints man almost entirely in their moments of relaxation, reveals their behavior and displays so much of their feelings as their demonstrations, and voice can bear witness to. His aim is not to give clues to a character, but to produce the image which the whole phenomenon of society has impressed upon his mind. To read him is therefore like meeting and mixing with the individuals he actually met. His field of survey is not very broad, his favorite position being the debatable land between the aristocracy and the middle classes. He knows mankind from dining rooms and drawing rooms, club rooms and country houses. Without any thorough acquaintance with English society, revealed full flow of the habits and feelings of the lower classes, he has seen a good deal of soldiers, artists, and men of letters, and has a profound knowledge of the footmen and men about town. From false tastes, or from some deeper infirmity, he is apt to give undue prominence to the vicious and contemptible, and to make the whole creation fully odious, to take immediate measures for its removal, which should be no longer delayed than may be required by a proper regard to these industrial pursuits with which that institution has been so long and so intimately interwoven, and a humane regard for the slave himself, which forbids us to cast him, unprepared for so great a change, too suddenly upon the feeble resources."

From the Pacific Coast.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 7.—The steamer Oregon, with $600,000 in treasure from Oregon, and $70,000 from British Columbia, has arrived here. She brings the news that on the 19th of December the small town of Fort Angles, Washington Territory, was nearly swept away by a torrent of water bursting from a ravine in the mountains near the Bay. The custom-house and a large two story building were destroyed. Collector Gunby escaped; but one Deputy and one Inspector were drowned. The dwelling of Victor Smith was destroyed, his family barely escaping.

The destruction of ex-Comptroller Warren, as far as ascertained, is about $13,000.

Fires.

CHARLESVILLE, Ill., Jan. 8.—The flouring mill belonging to Wier & Bro., of this place, was destroyed by fire last night. Loss from twenty to fifteen thousand dollars; no insurance. It is thought to be the work of an incendiary.

NEW HAVEN, Jan. 11.—The large hosiery and yarn manufacturing establishment of Ives & C. B. Alling, at Birmingham, was discovered by fire last night. Loss $50,000, partinsured in New York and Providence. The employees were hurried in the ru- establishment gave employment to

Jan. 8.—The wagon factory of ams, corner of Lumbard and Third res partially burned to-day. Loss ,000.

to Fort Lafayette.

ay, January 8.—A. R. Palmer, pri- ary to Col. Geo. Burnett, Jr., ercay and sent to Fort Lafayette,

ALBUMS.

E. B. ASPLEBY'S, 124 South Clark Street.

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

MATTERS CONGRESSIONAL AND MILITARY.

The $300 Clause Likely to be Retained.

THE NEW MILITARY AND CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Relief of Suffering within our Army Lines.

ALL QUIET IN UPPER VIRGINIA.

ATROCIOUS OUTRAGE AND ROBBERY OF ENLISTED MEN.

What Indiana has Done and is Doing for the War.

PATRIOTIC MESSAGE OF GOV. ANDREW.

A Town in Washington Territory Destroyed by Water.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1864.

CONGRESSIONAL.

The House was not in session to-day, having adjourned over in honor of Jackson and New Orleans. The Senate devoted most of its session to the discussion of the conscription bill, and particularly of the three hundred dollar clause.

Mr. Wilson opposed its repeal, and declared that there was a very heavy preponderance of public opinion in favor of the clause as it now stands.

Mr. Lane of Indiana, and some others, favored the repeal. No conclusion was reached, but it is pretty safe to say, the three hundred dollar clause will be retained in a modified form.

Mr. Wilson produced a sensation by offering a resolution to expel Garret Davis from the Senate, for disloyalty, as evinced in his resolutions recently introduced, wherein he called on the people to rise against their war lords and put an end to the conduct of affairs into their own hands.

Mr. Davis denied that he meant by this anything more than to appeal to the ballot box, and said he wasn't as much rebel as Wilson had shown himself when Massachusetts was in rebellion against a fugitive slave law. The remarks of Mr. Davis is quite decided, but still it is scarcely probable that anything like expulsion will come of it.

Mr. Hale's chronic quarrel with the Navy Department produced a stir in the Senate to-day, when he brought in a resolution of inquiry into the conduct of Lieut. Chief of the Bureau of Engineering, and into the management of the Department generally.

Messrs. Conness, of Cal., Grimes, Doolittle and others, replied, commending severely on Hale's course.

Garrett Davis got intrad up in the matter, and personally engaged passages with Conness, to which he replied that he was not to be scared by jackals. It was Conness' first speech in the Senate, and he made a very favorable impression.

Mr. Wilson stated to-day in debate, that not over fifteen thousand veterans would re-enlist, leaving a deficiency of about three times of enlistment before the first of July. The popular belief has been that the number was much larger.

On the vote on Mr. Baldwin's resolution declaring the rebel leaders at Richmond to be outlawed, it is noticeable that Senator King, of New York, heretofore ranked as a Copperhead, voted in favor of their adoption, while Mr. Rollin, considered conservative, dodged the question.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Snow fell to the depth of several inches, last night, and it is good sleighing here to-day.

PERSONAL.

Judge Birch of Missouri has beaten Gov. King in the contest before the Committee on Elections, in getting his depositions admitted. It is probable that in this matter he will be referred back to the people.

POLITICAL.

The Democratic National Committee met in New York, next week, to fix the time and place for the National Convention. Chicago, Columbus and New York are urged as appropriate places.

PATENT OFFICE.

The coming report of the Commissioner of Patents will show the receipts of the Patent Office for the last year to be $45,000 more than the expenditures, which, during the present prostrated condition of inventions, is considered quite favorable.

DEMOCRATIC MATTERS.

Some of the Missouri members here say it is understood that Gratz Brown acquiesces in the confirmation of Gen. Schofield. This determination is attributed to an understanding with Senator Henderson, whereby the latter agrees to influence the dozen followers of his in the Missouri Legislature to vote for a call for the State committee to consider the subject of immediate emancipation.

APPOINTMENTS.

The following nominations of Western men have been made by the President:

Cept. Bowan, of Ohio, to be Consul at Rio.
E. H. S. Clapp, of Illinois, Minister at Buenos Ayres.
Parks King, of Wisconsin, Minister at Rome.
Abraham Hanson, of Wisconsin, Commissioner and Consul General at Liberia.
G. O. Seldon, of Michigan, Consul at Verviers, Belgium.
Richard R. Morse, of Iowa, Consul at Cuxhaven.
D. L. Bill, of Michigan, Consul at San Juan Del Sur.
Jas. E. Mayo, of Ohio, Consul at Amsterdam.
A. G. Riddle, of Ohio, Consul at Matanzas.
W. W. Nichols, of Ohio, Consul at Bayonne.
John A. Hingham, of Ohio, to a prominent and confidential position in the Judge Advocate's office.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

A long list of appointments of Generals, Staff Officers, Surgeons, etc., sent to the Senate yesterday, is printed confidentially. It makes a pamphlet of seventy-four octavo pages.

During the vacation of Congress fifty-eight Brigadier Generals were appointed, whose names now come before the Senate for confirmation. Most, if not all of these, have been announced from time to time, as the appointments were made. Among them were Col. Thos. K. Smith, 5th Ohio; Col. M. M. Norse, 20th Ohio; Col. Walter G. Gresham, 53d Ind. and Col. Robert A. Cameron, 34th Ind. After the meeting of Congress there were seven vacancies still to be filled. For these there has been an unusually active competition, and Gen. Rosecrans is highly creditable to the West. Following are the men whom the President has nominated:

Col. C. G. Harker, 65th Ohio.
Col. John F. Miller, 26th Indiana.
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Col. Cyrus Bussy, 2d Iowa Cavalry.
Col. Hugo de Trobiand, 93d N. Y. vols.

The Senate will probably comply with the desire of the President, and pass the bounty bill of the House, perhaps with some amendments.

FROM SPRINGFIELD.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 8, 1864.

A meeting of the members of the Bar of the Supreme Court was held to-day to express in feeling terms their regrets at the resignation of Judge Caton.

The State Agricultural Society have been engaged during a large portion of the day in considering the various branches of industry, etc. Mr. Manlove offered a series of resolutions favoring county societies and recommending their organization, which were supported by a very able and interesting speech by the mover, in which he pointed out the abuses which had crept into the management of the societies.

Prof. Turner addressed the Convention, offering many valuable suggestions, touching on the benefits resulting from fairs, and as to the method of raising the standard of our fairs so as to ameliorate and socialize the industrial classes.

A strong effort is being made to have the 95d regiment ordered to Illinois to recruit. The regiment has been in the service about one year, and their effective force is now reduced to low over 200 men.

Col. Wilkinson has received another large remittance from the allotment commission at Chattanooga.

I learn that the trial of Major Herod of the 6th Illinois cavalry, who killed Col. Lisonie, is now in process at Memphis, and from the evidence it is supposed he will be acquitted.

Gov. Yates has been presented with a magnificent steel plate engraving of Major Gen. U. S. Grant, engraved by J. C. Buttre.

FROM CAIRO AND BATTERY.

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The health of the troops comprising the expedition was good; very few were sick, considering the extreme cold weather while on the march.

Forrest's force is said to have been greatly exaggerated, and will not number over 2,000.

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A barge containing 5,000 bushels of coal was sunk ft Columbus a day or two ago, by floating ice coming in collision with it.

Trusten Polk is here in charge of officers who will conduct him outside our lines.

This being the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans, a national salute was fired by order of Brigadier General Reid commanding.

FROM CHATTANOOGA.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Jan. 8, 1864.

Half of Gen. Willich's brigade have re-enlisted. The 19th and 40th Ohio have started home. One hundred and thirty men of the 18th re-enlisted.

Snow covered the ground here last night.

Gen. Thomas has issued an order, that the men who committed the late murder in Lincoln county, if caught, be summarily executed, and any persons executing them will be held guiltless. All persons aiding, abetting or harboring these guerrillas will be immediately arrested and tried by military commission.

FROM INDIANAPOLIS.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

INDIANAPOLIS, Jan. 8, 1864.

Nine full regiments have gone into camp under the last call. Two more regiments are nearly full. Recruits for the old regiments are pouring in by hundreds. There are more soldiers than citizens in the streets. Every train brings new troops and every train bears them to the front.

The Indiana State Board of Agriculture resolved to hold a State Fair on the 3d of October next.

The quota of Indiana under the last call was 19,000, this was reduced by enlistments and credits, to 16,141 on the 20th of October. Since then the enlistments in the State for new and old regiments are estimated at 13,000, and the enlistments of veterans in the field at 5,000. These estimates are substantially correct.

FROM CINCINNATI.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

CINCINNATI, Jan. 8, 1864.

The execution of Harvey Andrews, of the 124th Ohio infantry, found guilty of desertion and sentenced to be shot, near this city today, did not take place, President Lincoln having respited him.

The execution of another deserter to order ed for Monday next, but it is highly probable that the prisoner will also be respited by the President.

The weather has somewhat moderated, but the trains on the different railroads are still running rather irregularly.

FROM DESMOINES.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

DESMOINES, Iowa, Jan. 8, 1864.

The train on the Mississippi and Missouri Railroad, arrived at Grinnell last evening, at 6 o'clock, and the train on the Cedar Rapids Road got through to Marshalltown at 8—the first train through on either road for a week. The snow has cheated us out of a mail from Chicago and the East for eight days, and we are delighted with the prospect of a mail to-morrow.

A half-dozen membe rs of the Legislature have arrived, and the prospect now is that a quorum will get to the capital by Monday.

The mercury stood at 7 o'clock this morning twenty eight degrees below zero, at 12 m. one above, and at 10 this evening fifteen below.

FROM COLUMBUS.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 8, 1864.

Extensive preparations are being made by the Committee of the State Senate for the inauguration of Gov. Brough, which takes place on Monday next.

A proposition is now before the Ohio State Senate to prohibit substitute brokers from plying their vocation in this State.

Col. F. M. Keith, late commandant of the post of Covington and Newport has been relieved and ordered to report at Knoxville.

Col. G. C. Hawley has been appointed his successor.

FROM JEFFERSON CITY.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

JEFFERSON CITY, Jan. 8, 1864.

A national salute of thirty-four guns was fired from the Capital grounds this morning in honor of the battle of New Orleans. After this a salute of thirteen guns in honor of the 13th State admitted into the Union, and then a salute of thirty-four guns in honor of the present year. The latter were fired with round shot, and the ricochet of the shot on the bridge of two feet of ice on the Missouri, was interesting to the lookers on. After this the troops of the post were drawn up in front of Gen. Brown's headquarters, and addressed by that officer in a patriotic strain. The General's speech was a good one—appropriate and eloquent.

FROM ST. LOUIS.

[Special Dispatch to the Chicago Tribune.]

ST. LOUIS, January 8, 1864.

The thermometer stood at sunrise at eight degrees below zero, at 12 m., two degrees above.

Capt. Newberry reached here by the West Pacific train, and reports the weather equally severe in the southwest, the thermometer standing twenty-two degrees below zero at Calhoun.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1864.

SENATE.

Mr. WILSON of Mass. reported back the joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Hooker, his officers and men.

Mr. SPRAGUE of Rhode Island reported resolutions of thanks to Gen. Burnside, his officers and men.

Mr. NESMITH of Cal. introduced a resolution of thanks to Gen. Thomas, his officers and men.

Mr. WILSON of Mass. introduced a resolution providing for the expulsion of Garret Davis of Kentucky, owing to the sentiments put forth in a recent resolution of the latter, which in the opinion of Mr. Wilson called on the people to treasonable insurrection and rebellion, which stripped of its verbiage, Mr. Wilson said, was the purport of the resolution.

Mr. DAVIS explained to the Senate that the language quoted in Mr. Wilson's resolution, was a garbled version of his real resolution. What he (Davis) proposed was that that the people should rise at the polls and take the power of this Government into their own hands. He (Davis) repeated that the terms of Mr. Wilson's resolution were against the letter of his own and were in opposition to the spirit of his own.

The subject was then passed over and the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill, to encourage enlistments and conscription.

A debate followed on the $300 commutation clause.

Mr. LANE, of Ind., advocated its repeal.

Mr. Wilson, of Mass., opposed striking it out and believed the country would sustain him. He believed the term of service ought to be reduced from three years to eighteen months.

Without a vote the Senate went into executive session and subsequently adjourned.

MESSAGE OF GOV. ANDREW.

BOSTON, Jan. 8.—The annual message of Gov. Andrew was delivered to-day. It is very lengthy and comprehensive.

The receipts into the State treasury for the year were $7,228,823, and the payments in the same time were $6,766,507, leaving a balance of $462,316.

The establishment of a military academy under the patronage of the commonwealth, is urged.

The total number of men furnished to the land service by Massachusetts previous to October, 1863, was 76,000. Gov. Andrew argues at length in favor of recruiting our wasted regiments in the field. The Governor says whenever one community can furnish volunteers for our armies, and their communities can afford to pay them to some, but cannot afford to spare their own men from their own industry, the simplest rules of economy teaches the wastefulness of refusing to allow these balances to be adjusted by the law of supply and demand.

Gov. Andrew closes as follows: "The great Proclamation of Liberty will fill the ruler to silence in one nation and our sole above all vulgar destiny."

The bell which rung out the declaration of Independence has found a voice at last arbitrating the peace throughout all the land, and to all the inhabitants thereof. It has been heard across oceans, and has mollified the sensitiveness of Cabinets and Kings. The people of the old world have heard it—their hearts stop to catch the last whisper of its echoes. The poor slave has heard it, and with bounding joy, tempered by the mystery of religion, he worships and adores the ringing. Consumptives have heard it, and already foresee the fulfilled prophesy when she will sit redeemed, regenerated, and disenthralled by the genius of universal Emancipation.

FROM NEW ORLEANS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—The steamer YEDDO, from New Orleans, 31st has arrived.

Another secret expedition left New Orleans on the 30th. The strength and destination remains unknown. Little doubt is entertained but it is intended for Mobile. It is supposed that Pascagoula will be occupied for the present, and an advance made on Mobile as soon as the rainy season ends. It had rained for three days previously. On Sunday morning the city was submerged from one to two feet. This lasted near the river for several days. The streets are still under water back toward the swamp.

No army news. Nothing new from Texas.

Guerilla firing has entirely ceased on the Mississippi.

THE WAR IN VIRGINIA.

CUMBERLAND, Va., Jan. 8—7 p. m.—Gen. Kelly this evening received the following dispatch:

With the exception of McNeil's company, which is several miles back of Moorfield, there is no force of rebels near Moorfield. The report at Moorfield yesterday afternoon was, that Fitz Hugh Lee's rebel forces have been ordered to Winchester.

The present rebel raid was a complete failure, and was all attributed to the fact that Early was unable to bring his artillery from the valley, owing to the icy condition of the roads. Early's object was to attack New Creek, but owing to late snow-storms the roads were almost impassable for infantry.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 8.—The enemy has not at any time the last month been within twelve miles of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad line. Our passenger trains have regularly run with the exception of short detentions from snow-storms and cold.

We cannot believe the rebels military trouble of any kind, and passengers have not been turned back as reported. Signed W. P. Smith, Master of Transportation, Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

Later from Europe.

HALIFAX, January 8.—The Africa, from Liverpool 26th, and Queenstown 27th, has arrived here. Her dates are three days later.

THOUSTON, the author, is dead.

The American Minister at Paris and London are making persistent efforts to prevent the sailing of the Rappahannock from Calais.

The Lafayette refuses to sail their rams.

No markets Friday or Saturday.

Money rates 6@7 per ct. It was expected that bank rates would soon be reduced to 9 per cent.

FRANCE.—The Corps Legislatif had debated the Loan bill at length. M. Talers and other Ministers made speeches in favor of a partial relief on the part of the Government. M. Pinard censured the Governmental for the Mexican expedition, and the bill, was finally passed by a vote of 242 to 14. At a meeting at Altona, in which thousands took part, Prince Frederick was formally proclaimed Duke of Holstein, amid the greatest enthusiasm. The Saxon troops entered Altona on the 24th of December. The Danes left as the Federal troops appeared.

Rumors of an insurrectionary movement in Hungary are continued. Austria was taking precautions against such a movement.

The Danish Ministry have tendered their resignations to the King and they have been accepted.

England and Russia continue to exercise a pressure in Denmark on the Holstein question.

Six of the men who were enlisted to serve on board the Federal steamer Kearsage at Queenstown and who were recently disembarked at that port, have been committed for trial. Affidavits were produced showing they had enlisted for three years for the purpose of serving in the service of the United States.

The commercial news by the Africa was almost entirely anticipated by the City of Baltimore.

REPORT OF GEN. M'CLELLAN.

Abstract and Analysis in Advance of Publication.

The Campaigns of the Peninsula and of Maryland.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Com. Advertiser.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 31, 1863.

I have been fortunate or unfortunate enough to be called upon to read the seven hundred and eighty odd pages of manuscript which make up the report of Gen. McClellan; and I have considered it my duty to digest for you the main features of this document, which comes so important a chapter of the "history" which, at Mr. Lincoln justly observes, has to be made.

The report is well written in a simple, flowing style, but not very well distributed, or as we should say, "made up." It is full of points on which controversy might be made, and whenever time shall be ripe, no doubt will be made. At present only fully concerned be with the main facts and the most interesting documents which it contains.

The report is dated New York, August 6, 1863. It begins with an allusion to the results of the victories in Western Virginia, which, we learn, were won not at all in consequence with any general cooperative plan of action; and then goes on to recite the travel of the General at Washington after Bull Run; the organization of the army of the Potomac; the grand plan laid out for the general campaign of 1861-62; the final invasion of Virginia in 1862; the Peninsular movement; the seven days' battles; and the short but glorious Maryland campaign of September, 1862.

On the 1st of November, General McClellan was appointed to the chief command of all the forces of the Union, and at once began active operations.

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"This closed," says General McClellan, "seven days' fighting which had continued from the afternoon of the 26th June, in a series of engagements wholly unparalleled on this continent for determination and slaughter, on both sides."

July 4th the General telegraphed to the President that he occupied at Harrison's Bar positions "which could be carried only by overwhelming numbers.

"The spirit of the army," he added, "is excellent; stragglers are finding the regiments, and the soldiers exhibit the best results of the decision of Mr. Wilson to carry up the results of the brief but fierce campaign:

"I can not now approximate to any statistics of casualties, but we were not beaten in any conflict. The enemy were unable by their utmost efforts to drive us from the field. We have lost no guns except a few disabled in the battle, twenty-one of which were lost by the giving way of Mc-Call's division under the onset of superior force. Of the full extent of our losses in the case are known, it will be acknowledged by all competent judges that the movement just completed by our army is unparalleled in the annals of war. Under the most difficult circumstances we have preserved our trains, our artillery, our material, and above all, our honor."

To this the President replied:

"To have secured the harbors and still of yourself, officers and men, as you and forever have done, is much. If you can hold your present position, we shall be masters of Richmond.

On the 28th, Gen. McClellan telegraphed:

"If not attacked to-day, I shall laugh at them. The Officer Chesapeake is confident he can keep open my communications by James River."

Expecting an attack, he says, as a necessity to the enemy, and feeling the critical nature of the position, Gen. McClellan on the same day addressed to the President the following letter:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, CAMP NEAR HARRISON'S LANDING, Va., Monday, July 7.

MR. PRESIDENT: You have been informed that the rebel army is in our front, with the purpose of overwhelming us by attacking our positions or reducing us by blockading our river communications. I cannot but regard our condition as critical, and I feel that we should be unjustifiable commanders, to say before your Excellency, that we do not consider our army secure, as regards the existing state of the rebellion, although they do not entirely relate to the situation of affairs within the strictly military scope of my official duties. These views amount in conviction to the most solemn impressions of mind and heart. Our cause must never be abandoned—it is the cause of free institutions and self-government. Our Government must be supported, preserved, whatever may be the cost in time, treasure or blood. If our army must be destroyed by overwhelming numbers, or if circumstances are clearly forcing us to it, the last extremity must be reached before these batteries to be adjusted by the laws of supply and demand.

Gov. Andrew closes as follows: "The great Proclamation of Liberty will fill the ruler to silence in one nation and our sole above all vulgar destiny."

The bell which rung out the declaration of Independence has found a voice at last arbitrating the peace throughout all the land, and to all the inhabitants thereof. It has been heard across oceans, and has mollified the sensitiveness of Cabinets and Kings. The people of the old world have heard it—their hearts stop to catch the last whisper of its echoes. The poor slave has heard it, and with bounding joy, tempered by the mystery of religion, he worships and adores the ringing. Consumptives have heard it, and already foresee the fulfilled prophesy when she will sit redeemed, regenerated, and disenthralled by the genius of universal Emancipation.

FROM NEW ORLEANS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—The steamer YEDDO, from New Orleans, 31st has arrived.

Another secret expedition left New Orleans on the 30th. The strength and destination remains unknown. Little doubt is entertained but it is intended for Mobile. It is supposed that Pascagoula will be occupied for the present, and an advance made on Mobile as soon as the rainy season ends. It had rained for three days previously. On Sunday morning the city was submerged from one to two feet. This lasted near the river for several days. The streets are still under water back toward the swamp.

No army news. Nothing new from Texas.

Guerilla firing has entirely ceased on the Mississippi.

THE WAR IN VIRGINIA.

CUMBERLAND, Va., Jan. 8—7 p. m.—Gen. Kelly this evening received the following dispatch:

With the exception of McNeil's company, which is several miles back of Moorfield, there is no force of rebels near Moorfield. The report at Moorfield yesterday afternoon was, that Fitz Hugh Lee's rebel forces have been ordered to Winchester.

The present rebel raid was a complete failure, and was all attributed to the fact that Early was unable to bring his artillery from the valley, owing to the icy condition of the roads. Early's object was to attack New Creek, but owing to late snow-storms the roads were almost impassable for infantry.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 8.—The enemy has not at any time the last month been within twelve miles of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad line. Our passenger trains have regularly run with the exception of short detentions from snow-storms and cold.

We cannot believe the rebels military trouble of any kind, and passengers have not been turned back as reported. Signed W. P. Smith, Master of Transportation, Baltimore and Ohio railroad.

Later from Europe.

HALIFAX, January 8.—The Africa, from Liverpool 26th, and Queenstown 27th, has arrived here. Her dates are three days later.

THOUSTON, the author, is dead.

The American Minister at Paris and London are making persistent efforts to prevent the sailing of the Rappahannock from Calais.

The Lafayette refuses to sail their rams.

No markets Friday or Saturday.

Money rates 6@7 per ct. It was expected that bank rates would soon be reduced to 9 per cent.

FRANCE.—The Corps Legislatif had debated the Loan bill at length. M. Talers and other Ministers made speeches in favor of a partial relief on the part of the Government. M. Pinard censured the Governmental for the Mexican expedition, and the bill, was finally passed by a vote of 242 to 14. At a meeting at Altona, in which thousands took part, Prince Frederick was formally proclaimed Duke of Holstein, amid the greatest enthusiasm. The Saxon troops entered Altona on the 24th of December. The Danes left as the Federal troops appeared.

Rumors of an insurrectionary movement in Hungary are continued. Austria was taking precautions against such a movement.

The Danish Ministry have tendered their resignations to the King and they have been accepted.

England and Russia continue to exercise a pressure in Denmark on the Holstein question.

Six of the men who were enlisted to serve on board the Federal steamer Kearsage at Queenstown and who were recently disembarked at that port, have been committed for trial. Affidavits were produced showing they had enlisted for three years for the purpose of serving in the service of the United States.

The commercial news by the Africa was almost entirely anticipated by the City of Baltimore.

REPORT OF GEN. M'CLELLAN.

Abstract and Analysis in Advance of Publication.

The Campaigns of the Peninsula and of Maryland.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Com. Advertiser.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Dec. 31, 1863.

I have been fortunate or unfortunate enough to be called upon to read the seven hundred and eighty odd pages of manuscript which make up the report of Gen. McClellan; and I have considered it my duty to digest for you the main features of this document, which comes so important a chapter of the "history" which, at Mr. Lincoln justly observes, has to be made.

The report is well written in a simple, flowing style, but not very well distributed, or as we should say, "made up." It is full of points on which controversy might be made, and whenever time shall be ripe, no doubt will be made. At present only fully concerned be with the main facts and the most interesting documents which it contains.

The report is dated New York, August 6, 1863. It begins with an allusion to the results of the victories in Western Virginia, which, we learn, were won not at all in consequence with any general cooperative plan of action; and then goes on to recite the travel of the General at Washington after Bull Run; the organization of the army of the Potomac; the grand plan laid out for the general campaign of 1861-62; the final invasion of Virginia in 1862; the Peninsular movement; the seven days' battles; and the short but glorious Maryland campaign of September, 1862.

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THE CITY.

— The Mayor's office was crowded with visitors yesterday.

— Mr. Wm. Bross, of the Tribune, is confined to his house by illness.

— Mr. Wm. Penn Nixon, of the Inter-Ocean, is confined to his house by illness.

— Mr. Joseph Medill, of the Tribune

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1864.

THE OTHER SIDE

THE NAVY DEPARTMENT AND THE SICKLES "CUT-OFF."

Engineering Antecedents of B. F. Dickerson—The Detroit Pumping Engine—The Pensacola and the Sickles "Cut-Off"—The Agency of Mallory and Yulee in the Matter—Complete History of the Case.

SAILING QUALITIES OF THE NEW NAVY SLOOPS.

EDWARD N. DICKERSON.

In the issue of the New York *Herald* of the 7th instant, there is published the speech to the jury in the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, by Wm. M. Evarts, attorney in the case of a contested patent suit for the use of Sickles "cut-off" in the steamboat Columbia. Printed in small type it occupies over two pages, as if aiming by its quantity to command the attention that certainly does not belong to its quality. Instead of being a engineering argument in support of certain engineering views, it is throughout a personal attack upon the principal witness for Mr. Dickerson and the patents, Mr. Isherwood, Engineer-in-Chief, Navy Department, and upon all who stand in any way in the path of Dickerson and the patents. Written for the purpose, from beginning to end, it is filled with garbled statements, and with extracts from books and evidence, so torn from their natural connection and arranged by injunction, as to produce erroneous impressions. He quotes verso too, without mercy, for dealing so much in fiction, he naturally resorts to the evidences of the novels. The speech, indeed contains almost as many errors in statements, and as overdrawn with personal malice, that its animus is apparent to the most cursory reader. There must, of course, be a reason for the personal feeling which has carried the pleader to such a pitch of vituperation and reckless perversion through two sides of the "New York *Herald*." A brief sketch of the antecedents in the connection will show both the animus of the speech, giving opinions on Engineering questions, and the motives of its author.

Dickerson's speech, originally intended for the bar, but he appears to have soon abandoned the idea so far as to turn his attention to steam engineering, by which he was elected to be in connection with Mr. Sickels, known chiefly as the inventor of a "cut-off" that bears his name—and immediately commenced to carry out his favorite views of the construction and application of engines. His first attempt—his first effort—was tried upon the Detroit Pumping Engine in which the Sickles "cut-off" was applied to the engine and the same ellusions principles which he still entertains. He obtained the contract for that engine in precisely the same manner as he obtained the contract for the 360 inch cylinder, offering and guaranteeing the engine he proposed to construct, with a certainty not attained by any engine in the world, except those patented, to perform 5,000 horse power, more than had been hitherto attained by any steam engine in the world.

The Jersey City record books, which were kept on the Cornish plan—this is an admirably constructed Cornish pumping engine—show, that instead of maintaining the 100,000,000 he (Dickerson) would contract to do 136,000,000 or such millions as the Jersey City engine could be worked to, and the contract to put up an engine that would exceed the duty of any other engine in the country by fifty per cent.

The figures and final result of this machinery is best told in a few extracts from the report already cited, namely:

"The engine and pumps were prepared, was erected on the 18th of July, 1856, the contractors filling security to the amount of fifty thousand dollars, &c., &c.

"By the terms of the contract, this engine was to be fully completed by the first day of July, 1857, but the time was subsequently extended until July 1, 1858, and again until March 1, 1860; in both cases by and with the consent of the erection.

"In this report of January 1, 1858, the engineer of the Board reported that a considerable portion of the parts of the new engine had been received, that the contractors were soon to commence the erection of the engines. But on the 1st of January, 1859 we had to report to you that the engine was not finished. The 1st of January, 1860, found us again compelled to report to you that the engine had not yet been offered us for acceptance.

"It was finally offered us about the first of May, 1861, and during about six weeks, but gave so inferior a performance that it was only offered us for acceptance. It showed a duty of 90,000,000 instead of the promised 136,000,000. "Subsequently," says the report, "the engine has been thoroughly repaired, boilers have been removed and others substituted, and after making several short runs, the engineer in charge employed by the contractors, claims that the engine can perform in New York, taking with him the keys of the engine house, to report to his employers. Accordingly, on the 4th day of July last (1862), the keys of the house were returned to the Secretary of the Board by express, and the President has received a communication from Mr. B. N. Dickerson, one of the contractors, signifying him that the keys had been returned to the Board, and to inform him that the contractors would probably abandon their intention of making any further efforts to complete the engine.

"The fact is, gentlemen, that this should long before ordered the contract forfeited, and notified the contractors and their sureties accordingly, which has been done by the committee of the board, with power to cause legal proceeding to be instituted for the recovery of the penalty, but the counsel retained against both principal and securities, who have placed the matter in the hands of Messrs. Burrill, Davison & Burrill, attorneys at law, in this city, have advised that no such proceedings be instituted at present."

Thus ended this first effort. Even Dickerson's flattery does not suffice to persuade him to offer a precarious performance of 90,000,000 in place of 150,000,000 guaranteed and within a month or two after he had to run an engine without breaking down. The unhappy Water Commissioners grew wise with sorrow, and expressed to the Dickerson contractors their opinion that the well tried old usual construction, the reputation of which, no one having any particular interest in it, had then been over 30 years in operation, of the Pensacola Contract—Mallory and Yulee.

While the Detroit pumping engine was dragging its slow length along through utter failure, Dickerson was smitten with ambition to build a marine engine—an engine for a first-class naval vessel—and he commenced in his characteristic manner, by stupefying to the Navy Department all its engineers. He ascribed the engineers of that day in exactly the style of his speech now published in the *Herald*; they were fools and knaves, because they opposed their practical experience to his ideas, and their knowledge to his ignorance; but he made no progress until he brought his political associates to his assistance.

He did the same time affiliated with the then Senators, Mallory and Yulee, of Florida, and they bestirred themselves vigorously in his behalf. Mallory was Chairman of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, and necessarily had great influence with Mr. Toucey, the then Secretary of the Navy, a Democratic Cabinet Minister; but his opposition was finally overborne, and the Secretary signed the ill-omened contract with great reluctance. Every engineer in connection with, without exception, gave a decided opinion against the proposed engines, and confidently predicted—what was most unfortunately realized—that they would prove a complete failure.

They were strongly opposed by the then Engineer-in-Chief of the Navy and by Admiral Smith, both officers of the highest professional standing, and by the entire corps of naval engineers. They were not represented as mere theorists, but as men of skill, and were the common topic of ridicule in engineering circles. By the terms of the contract the contractors were to have all the necessary drawings and directions for the entire machinery, to superintend the construction of the same, and to grant the use of their patents for the same. This was to be done at the Government expense in the shops of the Washington Navy Yard. The contractors had their own shops at the same time in the country at their command. Nothing was wanting to the production of a perfect engine but knowledge on the part of the contractors of how to make it. Now was repeated a second edition of the operations with the Detroit engine. The machinery was finished at the Navy Yard, taking with him the keys of the engine house, to report to his employers. Accordingly, on the 4th day of July last (1862), the keys of the house were returned to the Secretary of the Board by express, and the President has received a communication from Mr. B. N. Dickerson, one of the contractors, signifying him that the keys had been returned to the Board, and to inform him that the contractors would probably abandon their intention of making any further efforts to complete the engine.

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THE CITY.

TONY PASTOR

TO-NIGHT.

PARK.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

Real Estate for Sale.

Auction Sales.

Lost.

Found.

Boarding.

Wanted.

For Sale.

To Rent.

Strayed.

Special Notice.

Married.

Died.

LOCAL MATTERS.

The City of Chicago vs. Owen Kelly and Others.